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At The Corral Gate



Enola
Gay

REILLY SPRINGS JAMBOREE HEADS TOWARD IT'S 64TH ANNIVERSARY

The country and gospel family entertainment venue, the Reilly Springs Jamboree, has experienced change recently, as all things must in order to endure. The band has a new name, Running Creek, and long-time lead guitarist Gary Jones has stepped up as band leader, Mike Shing is now the "sound man" and co-producer along with Enola Gay Mathews. Bill Langley continues as the drummer for Running Creek, and a permanent bass player is being sought, with Mark Pepper filling in for now. Meet them all at the next show, September 21, 2019.



Gary Jones
and Son,
Gary Jones Jr.



The Jamboree's 6pm Gospel Hour was presented at the August show by Shanna Carter and Walk the Line. Shanna has deep roots at Reilly Springs since her mom Mary Asbill, met her dad, Don Carter there as teens in the 1950's when their families were both performing on the show. Heading off to Nashville for country music-related careers which produced songwriting success, the couple also produced two children, Shanna and her brother Terry. Now they are carrying on a family tradition of performing country and gospel music. Terry is Music Director at his church in Emory, Texas and plays occasionally for worthy causes. Shanna heads up her 4-person gospel group called "Walk the Line" at cowboy churches and nursing homes, and at times sings back-up vocals for other bands who love her angelic voice. Her music publishing company, Iron Gable Music, keeps her as busy as she wants to be for now. She has already published some of her dad's originals, and her own songwriting is a focus she plans to take more seriously in the near future. During the August Jamboree, Shanna brought onstage her mom, Mary Asbill Carter Rose, her brother, Terry Carter and two nieces for a gospel medley and some great family harmony.



Shanna, her brother and
2 nieces singing family
harmony.



Mike Shing



Still singing! Mary Asbill Carter Rose

Mike Shing took a large part of the show as a regular singer, co-emcee and duet partner for Enola Gay. Mike also loves both gospel and country music, and has found a good home for both at the Reilly Springs Jamboree. Welcome to the show, Mike!

The joyful music of Bill Owens will fill the first hour at the Jamboree on Saturday, September 21, 2019. The country music show will follow with Mike and Enola as Sentimental Journey, Gary Jones and the Running Creek Band plus guests, including a great banjo player and a Patsy Cline Tribute singer! It's family friendly entertainment in a historic setting from country music's past, inside the Reilly Springs Community Center at 109 CR 1439 in southeastern Hopkins County. Don't miss it! Also check thereillyspringsjamboree on Facebook!

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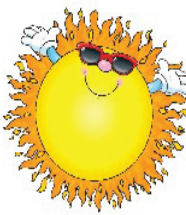
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Ricky Wilks

Funeral service for Ricky Wilks, age 67, of Sulphur Springs, will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, August 23, 2019 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Rev. Damon Wilks officiating and Rev. Edgar Clements assisting. Interment will follow at Nelta Cemetery with Brad Irving, Chris Hill, Chris Alberts, Clint Payne, Kenny Propst and Dillon Kinsey serving as pallbearers and Slick Loyd, Charlie Clark, Jimmy Gafford, Donnie Massey, Wayne Galyean, and Wendell Stonaker serving as honorary pallbearers. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 P.M. on Thursday, August 22, 2019 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Wilks passed away on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at his residence.

Ricky Dean was born on September 14, 1951 in Sulphur Springs to E.V. Wilks and Gladys (Duffer) Wesson. He married Melanie Seawright in Sulphur Springs, on March 3, 1984. Ricky was a carpenter and jack of all trades. He was a member of Church of Christ. Ricky's passion was racing, hot rods, working in his shop, he could build or fix anything he put his

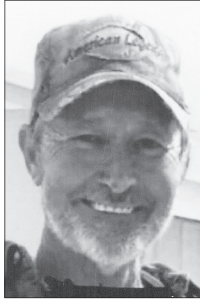
hand to. But Ricky's greatest passion and zest for life was building and watching his son race cars. His love for his family and the success of his children are what kept him going. Ricky was called a lot of things, a survivor, a walking miracle, loving husband, wonderful father and hero to his son.

He is survived by his wife, Melanie; son, Colton Wilks and Shawna; daughter, Lori McAfee; grandchildren, Kinlie Loper, Abby McAfee, Savanna McAfee; great grandchild, Jax Bryant; mother, Gladys Wesson; sisters, Janet Mabry and husband, Roger, Judy Lawrence and husband, Floyd; sister-in-law, Carole Wilks; brother-in-law, Ray Dean Seawright and wife, Ann.

Ricky was preceded in death by his father; brothers, Kenneth Wilks and Jacky Wilks; step-father, Buford Wesson

Memorial requests can be made to Nelta Cemetery or Birthright Baptist Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



Rhonda Jo Ross Wright

Funeral services for Rhonda Jo Ross-Wright, age 57, of Garland, TX, were held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, August 19, 2019 at Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Interment followed at Mel Haven Cemetery. There was no formal visitation. Rhonda passed away on August 13, 2019. She was born September 11, 1961, in Sulphur Springs, TX, to Leonard and Merlene Ross. She married Samuel James Wright and they had 2 children, Tamara Wright-Alexander (Keiston Alexander) and Cody Wright (Shellbi Perry). She has one granddaughter Kennady Alexander and one grandson, Kash Alexander. In addition, she is survived by her mother, Merlene Ross; three sisters, Judy "Ameenah" Ross-Snow (Rick), Janice Ross, Freda Ross; a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, cousins, and friends. She was preceded in death by her father, Leonard Ross. Rhonda was a member of Olive Branch Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs for many years. She moved her membership to Mt. Hebron Baptist Church in Garland after moving

to the metroplex. Rhonda graduated from Sulphur Springs High School in 1980 and was the Director of the Head Start Program in Commerce, TX, where she impacted the lives of many children. She was later employed as a Computer Technician at Sulphur Springs High School, again, impacting the lives of many young people. Rhonda loved computers and technology and was the family's "go-to" person for technology questions. She loved spending time with her family and friends and was a dear friend to many. Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



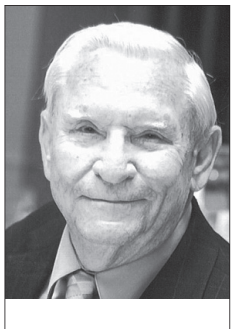
Warren Edward King

Funeral services for Warren Edward King, age 87, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, August 18, 2019 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Rev. Johnny Wheat officiating and Captain John Garrison assisting. Interment followed at Yantis Cemetery with Coleman Loose, Davis Loose, Matthew King, Will King, Kenzie Adams and Landis Adams serving as pallbearers and Winford Wilson, Kenneth Jenkins, Billy Baker, Eugene Elledge, Billy Howk and the Hopkins County Military Coalition served as honorary pallbearers. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 P.M. on Saturday, August 17, 2019 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. Mr. King passed away on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at Carriage House Manor.

He is survived by his wife, Bobbi; children, Kelley Loose and husband, David, of Dallas, Karren Jones and husband, Mark, of Ft. Worth, Darren King of Ft. Worth, Max Adams of Orange, Tommy Don Adams of Yantis, La Nell Howard and husband, John, of Mt. Vernon, Rodney Adams and wife, Anne, of Mt. Vernon; grandchildren, Davis and Jodie Loose, Coleman Loose, Matthew King and Will King; nephews, Jerry Burchfield, Ricky Burchfield.

Warren was preceded in death by his parents; wife, LaGuita; grandson, Wesley King; sister, Norma Burchfield.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



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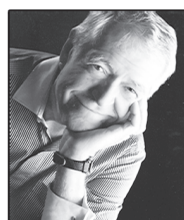
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A WIDE SWING THROUGH EAST TEXAS

Tumbleweed Smith



Tumbleweed Smith

Usually on an interview trip I'm gone about 3 days. This time I took an entire week and it proved worthwhile. I came home with 30 interviews and they were all stellar. The trip started in Milford near Waxahachie where I interviewed Cliff Yeary, a colorful blacksmith who lost an eye to an arrow and sometimes works in kilts. His ancestors were from Scotland. Then I went to Corsicana and recorded a choir at the Texas Southern Gospel Music School that meets two weeks every summer at Navarro College. Then I got serious about East Texas.

At Marshall I interviewed Tim Huff about the famous Fire Ant Festival and the Christmas Wonderland of Lights. At the spectacular Harrison County Courthouse Janet Cook regaled me with all kind of information about the birthplace of Boogie Woogie, the fact that Missouri chose Marshall as its provisional capital during the Civil War and other fascinating stories from Marshall's history. I heard about early homes, a greenhouse that grows beetles to take care of an invasive plant on Caddo Lake and visited Bear Creek, an impressive smokehouse and event center that has been in the same family for 76 years.

At Henderson I heard about sacred harp singing from Dave Rousseau (the voice is called a harp) and about playing dulcimer from his wife Sherry. Two different people told me about the city's syrup festival and the first Dairy Queen in Texas. Others related historical facts about Henderson. James Holmes, an attorney, is convinced the Civil War started in Henderson and he explained why he believes that.

In Palestine I interviewed Jean Mollard who owns the Redlands Hotel. It was built in 1914, stayed open 40 years or so and started to decay. Jean and her husband Norman, a Naval Flying Ace who was raised in Palestine, restored the old hotel and made it a destination. At Jacksonville I visited Texas Senator Robert Nichols who has an armload of honors including his 160 patents for hospital supplies. At Rusk I had the privilege of interviewing Mark and Angela Raiborn who own Birmingham Forest Golf Course. Angela is also the mayor of Rusk. They're a fabulous couple.

I went to Captain Ron's Swamp Tours and took a ride on a pontoon boat to some of the most intriguing and mysterious sights on Caddo Lake. I saw tall cypress trees and a variety of wildlife. After that I went to Jefferson and interviewed Anna and Cliff Bode who own the General Store. It has 100 types of root beers and cream sodas.

In Carthage I heard about guitar building from Ben Hudson and guitar playing and singing from Garth LaGrone. Former state historian Bill O'Neal talked about his latest book on Billy Dixon's long shot at Adobe Walls. Former sheriff Jack Ellett related events leading up to the movie Bernie. Carroll Langham of Grapeland had story after story about cowboy life. In Crockett I visited Scott McCall who writes children's books featuring Ted The Friendly Frog. Carole Martin told me about selling coonskin caps in her drug store, Davy Crockett Drug on the Crockett Square. What a trip!

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